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DATE:	April 1, 2002	FILE NO:	WEAT/0076
TO:	EXAMINER DAVID BOCHNA	FAX NO:	703-305-3597
COMPANY:	USPTO		
FROM:	WILLIAM B. PATTERSON	PAGE(S):	11 with cover
MESSAGE:	Original to Follow <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED FEBRUARY 26, 2002

U.S. Serial No. 09/381,508
Filing Date: September 21, 1999
Inventor: Metcalfe
Examiner: David Bochna
Group Art Unit: 3629

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1 April 2002 Cullen R. Pittman
Date Signature

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED FEBRUARY 26, 2002

In response to the Final Office Action dated February 26, 2002, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on May 26, 2002, please enter the following amendments and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 20-0782/WEAT/0076/WBP for any fees necessary to make the submission of this response timely.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follow:

1. An expandable tubing assembly comprising:
a tubular connector defining overlapping longitudinal slots and comprising an intermediate portion located between slotted end portions, the connector being radially